

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

10. (Amended) A chewing gum composition including ~~an a~~ water insoluble abrasive filler substance, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the said abrasive filler substance is selected from the group consisting of abrasive silica, calcium carbonate, talc, kaolin and mixtures thereof and is encapsulated in ~~micro-spheres~~ microspheres of cross-linked alginate.
11. (Amended) A chewing gum composition according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the said ~~micro-spheres~~ microspheres have an equivalent average diameter lying between 0.6 and 1.5 mm.
12. (Amended) A chewing gum composition according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the said ~~micro-spheres~~ microspheres have an equivalent average diameter lying between 1 and 1.2 mm.
13. (Amended) A chewing gum composition according Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the said ~~micro-spheres~~ microspheres are present in quantities from 1% to 10% by weight referred to the weight of the chewing gum.

14. (Amended) A chewing gum composition according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the said-abrasive filler substance is present in particles having dimensions expressed as
equivalent average diameter, lying between 2 and 100 μm .
15. (Amended) A chewing gum composition according to Claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the said-abrasive filler substance has a particle size lying between 6 and 10 μm .
16. (Amended) A chewing gum composition according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the said-micro-spheres-microspheres comprise from 80% to 99% by weight of abrasive
filler substance.
17. (Amended) A chewing gum composition according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the said-micro-spheres-microspheres further include ingredients chosen from flavorings,
sweeteners, active agents and mixtures thereof.